

REMARKS

A minor correction has been made to the specification. Claims 1, 4, and 7 have been amended. Claims 2-3 and 8-9 have been canceled. Claim 11 has been added. Claims 1, 4-7, and 10-11 remain pending. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application, as amended, are requested. The Examiner rejected claims 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Examiner indicated that claims 2-6 and 9 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2. Claim 11 is original claim 1 with the limitation of claim 3. Claim 7 has been rewritten to include the limitations of claims 8 and 9. In other words, claims 2-3 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. The other pending claims depend from these claims. Consequently, the rejections are moot.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are requested. Allowance of claims 1, 4-7, and 10-11 at an early date is solicited.

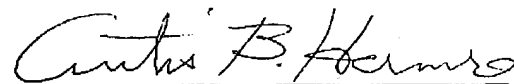
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Date

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